

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0012] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0012] According to a preferred embodiment of the invention, preferably, the reflectance of the end face is approximately 80 ~~percents~~ percent or more. This further increases the light-use efficiency.

Please replace paragraph [0038] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0038] The end face 113 is substantially perpendicular to the central axis in agreement with the optical axis AX1. In other words, there ~~is~~ may be no need ~~a step to~~ process the shape of the end face 113 itself such that the end face 113 is diagonally cut with respect to the optical axis AX1 to form an inclined surface. This increases light-use efficiency by processing the end face at low cost by a simple process of forming a reflecting film on the end face 113.

Please replace paragraph [0059] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0059] The rod integrator may be a solid-state rod integrator 800, shown in Fig. 8. The solid-state rod integrator has an optical waveguide that is not hollow but filled with a specific optical material 802. In general, glass (berkelium 7, quartz and the like) is used as the optical material 802. When a single-wavelength semiconductor light source can be used as a light source, the optical material 802 may be a plastic material (epoxy, acryl and so on), ignoring heat resistance. The center portion of the solid-state rod integrator 800 can be filled with the optical material 802 with a higher refractive index than that of a peripheral wall 801. The light incident on the solid-state rod integrator 800 is reflected under the conditions of total internal reflection (TIR conditions) to generate on the interface between a high refractive element and a low refractive element. This provides a reflectance of about hundred ~~percents~~ percent on the interface. Therefore, light-transmission efficiency is increased as compared with the hollow rod integrator.